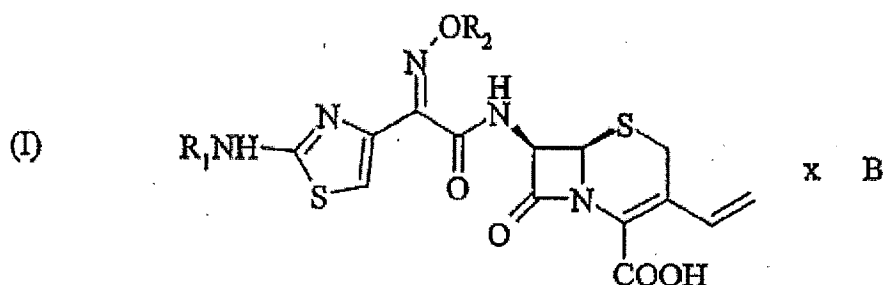


# Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

## Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An isolated salt as set forth in formula (I)



wherein

R<sub>1</sub> is hydrogen or an amino-protecting group, selected from formyl, an alkyl- or aryl-oxycarbonyl group, or a trityl group wherein each benzene ring is optionally substituted with one or more methoxy and/or methyl groups:

R<sub>2</sub> is a hydroxy-protecting group selected from a straight or branched C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl group, a benzyl, benzhydryl or trityl group wherein each benzene ring is optionally substituted with one or more methoxy, nitro and/or methyl groups;

B is ammonia or an organic base selected from primary amines, secondary amines, tertiary amines, guanidine, amidines or an adduct thereof, wherein said adduct is a complex of said salt and a compound represented as H-Z, wherein H is hydrogen; and

Z is selected from -Cl, -S-mercaptobenzothiazolyl, -O-P<sup>+</sup>(Ph)<sub>3</sub>Cl<sup>-</sup>,

~~-O-P(S)(OEt)<sub>2</sub>, -O-P(O)(OEt)<sub>2</sub>, -O-SO<sub>2</sub>Me, -O-SO<sub>2</sub>Ph, -O-SO<sub>2</sub>pTol, -O-COtBu,~~

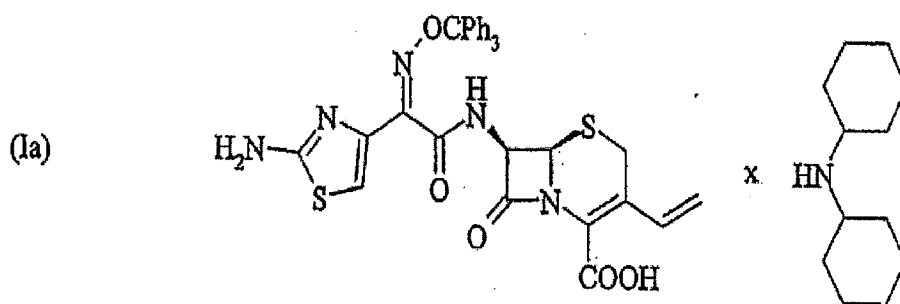
-O-C(O)OEt, -O-benzotriazol-1-yl, -S-(2-methyl-thiadiazol-5-yl) and

-O-CH=N<sup>+</sup>(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>Cl<sup>-</sup> or benzotriazol-1-yl-3-oxide[[:]] ; and

wherein the salt is isolated from a reaction medium.

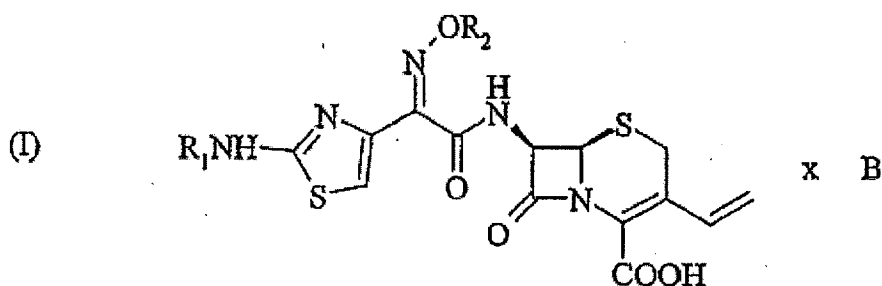
2. (Previously Presented) The salt as claimed in claim 1 wherein R<sub>1</sub> is a tert-butoxycarbonyl, p-methoxybenzyloxycarbonyl, or trityl group.
3. (Previously Presented) The salt as claimed in claim 1 wherein R<sub>2</sub> is a tert-butyl, p-methoxybenzyl, 3,4-dimethoxybenzyl, benzhydryl, bis(p-methoxyphenyl)methyl or trityl group.
4. (Previously Presented) The salt as claimed in claim 1 wherein R<sub>1</sub> is hydrogen and R<sub>2</sub> is trityl.
5. (Previously Presented) The salt as claimed in claim 1 in which B is a primary amine selected from cyclohexylamine, 2-ethylhexylamine, benzylamine, α-methylbenzylamine and tert-octylamine.
6. (Previously Presented) The salt as claimed in claim 1 in which B is a secondary amine selected from diethylamine, morpholine, dicyclohexylamine, N,N-methylbenzylamine or N, N<sup>1</sup>-dibenzylethylenediamine.

7. (Previously Presented) The salt as claimed in claim 6 wherein B is dicyclohexylamine.
8. (Previously Presented) The salt as claimed in claim 1 wherein B is a tertiary amine selected from triethylamine, tributylamine, triisooctylamine, ethyldiisopropylamine, N-methylmorpholine, pyridine, 2,6-lutidine or quinoline.
9. (Previously Presented) The salt as claimed in claim 1 wherein B is 1,1,3,3-tetramethylguanidine.
10. (Previously Presented) The salt as claimed in claim 1 wherein B is 1,5-diazabicyclo[4.3.0]non-5-ene (DBN) or 1,8-diazabicyclo[5.4.0]undec-7-ene (DBU).
11. (Previously Presented) The salt of claim 13, wherein said salt is set forth in formula (Ia)



12. (Previously Presented) A method of synthesizing a salt of cefdinir, comprising the step of deprotecting the salt of claim 1.

13. (Currently Amended) A salt as set forth in formula (I)



wherein

R<sub>1</sub> is a formyl, tert-butoxycarbonyl, p-methoxybenzyloxycarbonyl, or trityl group:

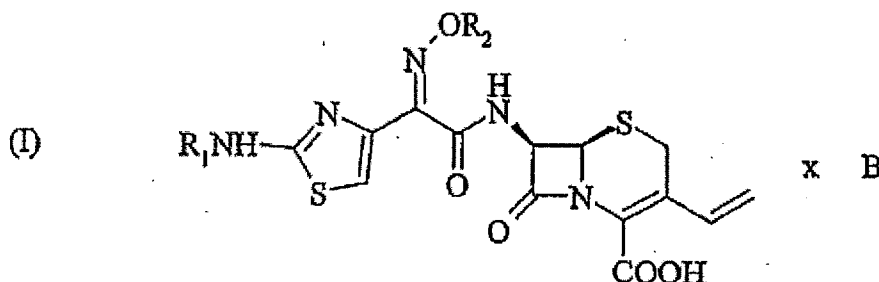
R<sub>2</sub> is a hydroxy-protecting group selected from a straight or branched C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl group, a benzyl, benzhydryl or trityl group wherein each benzene ring is optionally substituted with one or more methoxy, nitro and/or methyl groups;

B is ammonia or an organic base selected from primary amines, secondary amines, tertiary amines, guanidine, amidines or an adduct thereof, wherein said adduct is a complex of said salt and a compound represented as H-Z, wherein H is hydrogen; and

Z is selected from -Cl, -S-mercaptobenzothiazolyl, -O-P<sup>+</sup>(Ph)<sub>3</sub>Cl<sup>-</sup>, ~~-O-P(S)(OEt)<sub>2</sub>-~~, ~~O-P(O)(OEt)<sub>2</sub>~~, ~~O-SO<sub>2</sub>Me~~, ~~O-SO<sub>2</sub>Ph~~, ~~O-SO<sub>2</sub>pTol~~, ~~O-COtBu~~, ~~O-C(O)OEt~~, ~~O-~~

benzotriazol-1-yl-3-oxide.

15. (Currently Amended) A salt as set forth in formula (I)



wherein

- R<sub>2</sub> is a hydroxy-protecting group selected from a straight or branched C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl group, a benzyl, benzhydryl or trityl group wherein each benzene ring is optionally substituted with one or more methoxy, nitro and/or methyl groups; and

B is ammonia or an organic base selected from primary amines, secondary amines, tertiary amines, guanidine, amidines or an adduct thereof, wherein said adduct is a complex of said salt and a compound represented as H-Z, wherein H is hydrogen; and

Z is selected from -Cl, -S-mercaptobenzothiazolyl, -O-P<sup>+</sup>(Ph)<sub>3</sub>Cl<sup>-</sup>,

~~-O-P(S)(OEt)<sub>2</sub>, -O-P(O)(OEt)<sub>2</sub>, -O-SO<sub>2</sub>Me, -O-SO<sub>2</sub>Ph, -O-SO<sub>2</sub>-pTol, -O-COtBu,~~

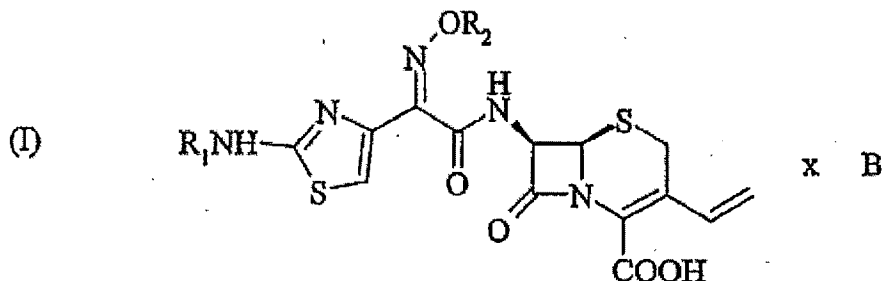
-O-C(O)OEt, -O-benzotriazol-1-yl, -S-(2-methyl-thiadiazol-5-yl) and

-O-CH=N<sup>+</sup>(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>Cl<sup>-</sup> or benzotriazol-1-yl-3-oxide.

16. (Previously Presented) An adduct of a salt of claim 15.

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Currently Amended) A crystal of a salt as set forth in formula (I)



wherein

$R_1$  is hydrogen or an amino-protecting group, selected from formyl, an alkyl- or aryl-oxycarbonyl group, or a trityl group wherein each benzene ring is optionally substituted with one or more methoxy and/or methyl groups:

$R_2$  is a hydroxy-protecting group selected from a straight or branched  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl group, a benzyl, benzhydryl or trityl group wherein each benzene ring is optionally substituted with one or more methoxy, nitro and/or methyl groups;

B is ammonia or an organic base selected from primary amines, secondary amines, tertiary amines, guanidine, amidines or an adduct thereof, wherein said adduct is a complex of said salt and a compound represented as H-Z, wherein H is hydrogen; and

Z is selected from  $-Cl$ ,  $-S$ -mercaptobenzothiazolyl,  $-O-P^+(Ph)_3Cl^-$ ,

~~$-O-P(S)(OEt)_2$ ,  $-O-P(O)(OEt)_2$ ,  $-O-SO_2Me$ ,  $-O-SO_2Ph$ ,  $-O-SO_2-pTol$ ,  $-O-COtBu$ ,~~

~~$-O-C(O)OEt$ ,  $-O$ -benzotriazol-1-yl,  $-S$ -(2-methyl-thiadiazol-5-yl) and~~

~~$-O-CH=N^+(CH_3)_2Cl^-$  or benzotriazol-1-yl-3-oxide.~~